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The Spike June 2017

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EASTERN IOWA ORCHID SOCIETY

The Spike

A small group of people with a big love of growing orchids.



Bulbophyllum falcatum pictured here is from central Africa and flowers on a flat rachis that looks like a pea pod starting to fill. Each little 'pea' is a separate orchid flower and actually they are quite pretty up close but don't smell them too long!



Rejoice, it's time to celebrate! This is the last time you will have to put up with my inane blather taking up space in our otherwise wonderful newsletter. As I'm sure you all remember, the last Spring meeting this year is coming up this Thursday, June 1. This is a very important meeting, since we will be electing a new group of officers to serve our club for the next two years. Actually, we will not necessarily have all new officers, as we have a number of incumbents who are running for reelection. Mike Hampton, who holds the dual positions of secretary and newsletter editor, is up for those two posts again. I'm not sure about the secretary part, since I have never seen an actual minute taken at any of our meetings, but he does an excellent job with the newsletter, so he gets my vote. Other incumbents running include Cathy Wilcox, who is running for treasurer. Despite her lack of experience in the position, I believe she is beginning to get the hang of it, and deserves our support. Laynez Ackermann and Nile Dusdieker are up for reelection as AOS Representative and Mid-America punishment, is Representative respectively. Do not ask me what function representatives to those two groups actually serve, but just vote for them anyway. Nile Dusdieker is also running for the office of vice president. In addition, Nile, who seems to be a glutton for also running for website editor, unless we can find

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Calendar of Events

June EIOS meeting at Shueyville Methodist Church Andy Coghill-Behrends will talk on Bifoliate Cattleyas	6/1/17
Central Iowa Speaker's Day in Des Moines	7/29/17
September EIOS meeting	9/7/17
October EIOS meeting	10/5/17
Sixth Annual Eastern Iowa Orchid show and Sale at Noelridge Greenhouse	10/21-22/17

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Bits of This and That! By Nile Dusdieker

May was a very busy month. Over 15 club members participated in our 'On the road field trip', and we did see orchids! At the McBride field campus we found the Putty Root leaves and spike but no flowers (*Aplectrum hyemale*) and left the flag incase anyone wanted to revisit the area and see the flowers—just about now! We did find a blooming *Galearis spectabilis*, the Showy Orchid and it was all white which is rather unusual. Next, those who didn't get lost visited Rochester Cemetery in Cedar County and saw a wonderful display of spring prairie flowers but alas no slipper orchids. Those awaited us at Andy and Will's home where we were treated to a lovely picnic on the back patio. Great Trip!



Photos of Field Trip: Galearis above and Putty Root below



Wild flowers at Rochester Cemetery but we did not see the *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens* as we did on our 2009 field trip. I'm afraid they are gone forever! Archive photo from 2009 to prove they were there! LEFT



One added perk in May; Andy and Nile stopped by the bog along the rail and high lines coming home from Chicago and saw hundreds of *Cyp. Candidum* pictured RIGHT





Mother's Day Noelridge Showcase: EIOS had a nice display and lots of beautiful orchids for sale to support our fall show.

LEFT is after setup and RIGHT is Lois with only a couple stragglers left to sell with an hour to go! Thanks again for all who helped and those who donated the plants!

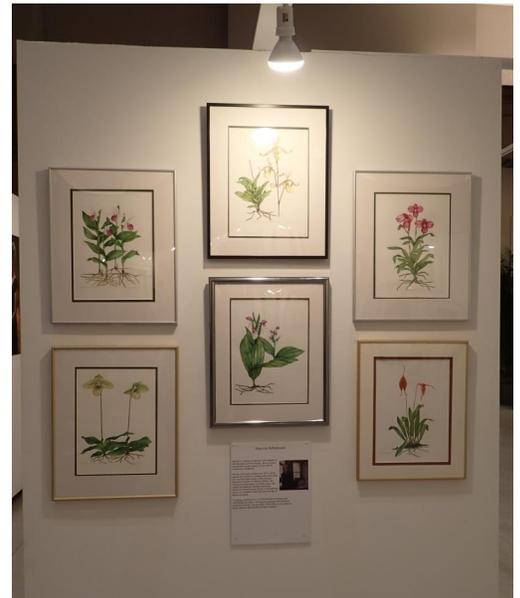


The REDLANDS ORCHID FESTIVAL and the American Orchid Society Annual Meeting



Nile and Lois Dusdieker and Marsha Whitmore attended the Redlands Festival at the Fruit and Spice Park near Homestead, Florida. It was basically a huge orchid 'flea market' with 46 vendors selling plants from all over the world. Marsha drove down and was willing to transport plants back to Iowa. **76 orchids later** - but that is another story!

Both Marsha and Nile received honors at the AOS meeting. Marsha's original paintings were on display at the Fairchild Gardens and will remain there till the end of the month. Nile received a framed photo for his photography of the winning *Lycaste* National Award exhibited by Orchids Limited in the winter of 2016. Of course we also visited RF Orchids with amazing *Vandas*.



Marsha Whitmore Art Exhibit above



Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

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someone who actually knows how run a website. If there is any member out there who has any experience at all setting up and running a website, please let me know. Finally, for the office of president, I am very excited about the candidacy of Peggy Green; I'm sure she will be a vast improvement over that guy we have had the last two years.

In addition to the election of officers, there will be an interesting program at the meeting this week. It will be presented by Andy Coghill-Behrends, who will be talking about the Guttata group of bifoliate Cattleyas. There will also be some delicious treats, courtesy of Jean Snyder, and important item of business for all us chowhounds. There will also be some nice raffle prizes. With so many good reasons to come, I hope you all can come.

The last two years, serving as your president, have been a very enjoyable time for me, except for the chicken incident; that sucked. We have made some changes, for the better I think. We have a great new place to hold our meetings. It is much brighter and more open than the old location, providing a friendlier and more inviting atmosphere for our meetings. We have added some new and enthusiastic members, who are breathing some new life in the club. Let's hope one of them is a website administrator, as well as an orchid lover. Over the last two years you have made it clear to me that EIOS is not just an orchid society, but a group of friends that like to get together and enjoy each others company, while discussing our common interest in orchids, as well as other things, while learning more about orchids, and other things; and most of all, just having fun together. Thank you all for making the last two years so much fun, and I hope to see you all on Thursday.

Bill

Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

Jean Snyder

Directions to the First United Methodist Church in Shueyville, Iowa

This is half way between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, The church is located 1 mile EAST of Exit 10 (Swisher-Shueyville) off Interstate 380. Our meetings begin with a social time at 6:30 pm; followed by the official meeting and program at 7:00 pm. Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in orchids! Our club displays orchids at regional orchid shows and participates in American Orchid Society orchid judging. Meeting programs include beginning orchid growing, discussion about various types of orchids and orchid conservation, plus an auction and holiday party just for fun. Enjoy our website, easterniowaorchidsociety.org, read our newsletters, attend our Fall Orchid Show in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and come join us at our next meeting!